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Application No.: 10/539,643 Amdt. Dated: December 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Dated: July 12, 2006

## REMARKS

Claims 10-21 were pending in the present application. Claims 12-21 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10-11, which were found allowable, remain pending.

## Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12-14 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howell et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,444,169. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of these rejected claims.

Claims 12, 13, 15, 17, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmutz et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,539,573. Claims 16 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmutz et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,389,139. These rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of these rejected claims.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 10-11 are considered allowable. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3218.

Respectfully submitted,

HUTCHISON LAW GROUP PLLC

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